

The Baptist Record

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Skygusty Baptist Mission, was organized as a mission of Bluewell Baptist Church, Bluefield, West Virginia, summer, 1981.



Angela Davis, left, and Melva Graham take a break during playtime at day camp in a park near Skygusty Mission.

Bible and science, origin of Bible are BSU topics

The 1981 Mississippi Baptist Student Union Convention Sept. 25-27 at First Church, Columbus, will place primary emphasis on Bible study, in line with the theme, "Living God's Truth."

Featured Bible study leader will be Chester Swor of Christian Life Crusades, Jackson, author of eight books and lecturer and counselor on college and university campuses. Also Ted Snazelle, professor of biology, Mississippi College ("The Bible and Science") and Roy Lee Honeycutt, professor at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky. ("How the Bible Came

to Be") will lead Bible study conferences.

The Mime Team from Blue Mountain College will present a theme interpretation during the opening session.

Key speaker Saturday evening will be Baker James Cauthen, who retired in 1979 as executive director of the Foreign Mission Board, SBC. Cauthen, a native of Texas, was missionary to China before he accepted the leadership of the Foreign Mission Board in 1954.

Cauthen's address will be preceded

by a testimony given by Jerry Jones, coordinator of college students in the Ministries and Deputation Department at Foreign Mission Board headquarters, Richmond, Va. Jones grew up in New Mexico. He was a BSU summer missionary to West Germany in 1968 and a missionary journeyman in Austria 1970-72.

Music leaders for the convention will be Bill and Linda Cates of Celebration Concepts, Inc., Nashville, Tenn., who perform nationwide in at least 40 concerts a year. Linda has sung in such major theaters as Carnegie Hall in New York and Albert Hall in London. She has been featured in Broadman Press musicals and in television specials. Bill is a composer, arranger, and producer who spent two years as a musical director and composer for the international cast of "Up with People." He is co-author of five Christian musicals. His song, "Do You Re-

ally Care?" appears in the Baptist Hymnal.

Others on program will include Tim Glaze, Mississippi College, state BSU president; Joe McKeever, pastor, First, Columbus; Jerry Merriman, director, Department of Student Work, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; Andrew Fitts, student at Mississippi State; Laura Fisher, student at Blue Mountain College; Lloyd Lunceford, associate, Department of Student Work, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; Carol Elliot, student at Ole Miss.

Conference topics for consideration, besides specific Bible study, will be "Steps in Choosing a Career," led by John Harper, Department of Counselor Education, Mississippi State University; "The Meaning of Discipleship," led by Barry Hardy, minister of education, First, Crystal Springs; "Church Related Vocations," led by Jack Glaze, chairman of the Division of Religion, Mississippi College; "Ethical Issues in the 80's," led by Bill Elder, pastor, St. Charles Avenue Church, New Orleans, La.; "Summer Missions—Is It for me?" led by Lloyd Lunceford; "Yes, You Can Reach your Summer Missions Goal," by Susan Puckett, director, Baptist Student Union, Blue Mountain; "Handling Doubt," led by Walter Price, pastor, First, Fulton; "Handling Stress Effectively," led by Dan Cochran, School of Business, MSU; "Time Management," led by Leon Emery, director, Department of Church Administration and Pastoral Ministries, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; "Sharing An Effective Witness," led by Tommy Shumate, associate, Christian Life Crusades; "Choosing a Partner in Marriage," led by Jeanette Phillips, Department of Home Economics, University of Mississippi.

The Saturday afternoon session will include presentation of plans for the 1982 student missions program.

The convention will begin Friday with registration at 4 p.m. and an evening session at 7, and will adjourn Sunday morning at 10:15.



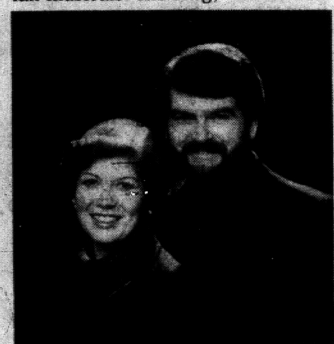
Swor

Cauthen



Jones

Glaze



Bill and Linda Cates

SBC statistics mixed as compared to nation

By Mary Knox

ATLANTA (BP)—Southern Baptist membership grew faster than the U.S. population during the 1970's, but the convention's growth fell "alarmingly" behind the rate of increase in Sun Belt states, according to an SBC Home Mission Board report just released.

SBC resident membership increased 17 percent during the decade, while the U.S. population grew 11.4 percent, noted Orrin D. Morris, the board's research director and author of the reports.

Based on 1980 U.S. census data and SBC Uniform Church Letters, the report said the nation's population grew from 203.3 million to 226.5 million, and the SBC expanded from 8.3 million resident members to 9.7 million. The convention claims 13.6 million total members.

But the figures are misleading, because Southern Baptists are "losing in the states where we have the greatest strength—the South," Morris claimed.

"The shocker is that we've shown what appears to be growth, but we've been overrun by the population," he said.

Churches in the South provided 79 percent of the total SBC membership

growth and 48 percent of the increase in churches. But while population in those states increased 20 percent, SBC churches there increased by only 15.4.

(Continue on page 2)

Tenn. Children's Homes refuse to pay tax penalty

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. (BP)—The Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes has declined to pay \$14,160 in penalties assessed by Internal Revenue Service for failure to file Form 990.

Earlier this month IRS issued a demand for payment of that amount based on TBCH's failure to file the report forms. On Aug. 21, the children's homes responded to IRS that payment would not be made nor Form 990 filed, since to do so would involve "excessive entanglement" of a government agency in a church function.

The penalty demanded is \$5,000 for failure to file the 1977 Form 990; \$5,000 for 1978; and \$4,160 for 1979. Interest would be added to these amounts.

Form 990 is a comprehensive finan-

cial report—which includes revenues, expenses, balance sheet, trustees, and other data—allegedly used by the Internal Revenue Service to determine if nonprofit organizations have unrelated business income on which they must pay taxes.

According to the IRS Code, churches, associations, and conventions of churches and their "integrated auxiliaries" are exempt from filing Form 990.

According to E. B. Bowen, executive director-treasurer of the children's homes, the basic question is whether TBCH is an "integrated auxiliary" of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Bowen said the IRS has used the Tax Reform Act of 1976 to create a new regulation that all charitable organizations except those "exclusively religious" must file Form 990 as a "nonintegrated auxiliary."

The TBCH contends that the congressional act did not require that such a form be filed, that the children's homes are an integrated auxiliary of the Tennessee Baptist Convention churches, and that to comply with this regulation involves the government in unconstitutional "excessive entanglements" in the practice of religion.

TBCH trustees voted to "respectfully refuse" to file the form each year on the grounds that it does not receive any funds from federal or state governments and that all information requested is available from other sources.

Bowen commented that "all information that goes on Form 990 is public information provided by the audit that is done annually."

Frank Ingraham of Franklin, Tenn., who with Glenn Stophel of Chattanooga is representing the TBCH, said that he expects an IRS administrative review of the refusal to pay the penalties.

Ingraham suggested that concerned Tennessee Baptists might wish to discuss this situation with their congressmen who are home for the August recess.

In May the executive board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention voted to support the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes in their refusal to comply with the Form 990 regulation.

Me? a Sojourner at Skygusty!

By Melva Graham

High in the mountains of West Virginia, in the heart of the coal fields, sits a small, one-room church building in a small town called Skygusty. This little building has a special place in my heart, because in it, I helped to establish a Southern Baptist mission. Being from Mississippi, where Southern Baptists are strong, I felt strange working in a state where 60 percent of the people are not church members and where at the beginning of 1981, there were only 78 Southern Baptist churches and 30 chapels.

When I first learned our Home Mission Board had assigned me to West Virginia as a Sojourner for ten weeks this summer, I was both excited and scared. My high school history teacher, a native of West Virginia, had told me a lot about the people in this area. From the moment I stepped off the plane at Charleston, I knew this was where God wanted me to spend my summer. Across the magnificent horizons, I could see mountains, mountains, and more mountains.

At orientation, I met the other summer missionaries. Most of them were just as frightened and excited as I was.

Here, I met my supervisor, Cliff Davis, formerly of Ludlow, Miss. At one time he was pastor of the Elaine Baptist Church at Jackson. His wife is also a native Mississippian. Two of their four children are enrolled in Mississippi colleges—Mike attends Mississippi State and Angela is a sophomore at Mississippi College. Angela was my partner for the summer and we both grew in the Lord as we worked together.

During the summer, we were assigned to the Bluewell Baptist Church, where Bro. Davis was the pastor. Before we arrived, the church had voted to sponsor a mission in a nearby area that had no Southern Baptist work. Each time we went to the mission, we had to drive 22 miles over a mountain. The first time we saw the building it was in bad need of repair, but I thought it was beautiful. It was just like the small church my Daddy pastored one time near Oxford, even with the large picture of Jesus up front. After cleaning the inside and outside of the building the best we could, we went from house to house in the area handing out flyers announcing that we would hold

services at the mission the next Sunday afternoon.

Each Sunday afternoon that we were there, we had services. I played a borrowed piano from the Bluewell Church. After much hard work and lots of visitation, the mission has about 15 in regular attendance. The group has called a pastor and we are hoping that one day the mission at Skygusty will develop into a self-sustaining church.

During the summer we also worked in VBS, day camps, helped with Youth Fellowships took surveys, and worked at Baptist state camps.

We have many high school juniors and seniors in our state who would make good Sojourners if they would be interested enough to go. I pray that Mississippi Baptists will see more of its young people get involved in missions.

(Melva Graham, a member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Independence, is a full-time Christian service volunteer. She has entered Blue Mountain College this fall. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Max B. Graham of Independence.)

Thankful every day for state missions

By Marjean Patterson

Executive Director, Mississippi W.M.U. You really might say that I am thankful every day for the Margaret Lackey State Missions Offering. The items in the offering allocation list which contain the word "Garaywa" are especially close to my heart, as you would understand.

We in Woman's Missionary Union are grateful for the financial support of Mississippi Baptists to our camping program at Garaywa. Each year thousands of people visit this beautiful camp, and many of these people make some decisions while there which are akin to life-changing commitments.

Maintaining and up-grading Garaywa is possible because Mississippi Baptists give to the Margaret Lackey State Mission Offering each year. Thank you!

Likewise, I rejoice in the allocation for Garaywa. The offering is taken lovingly in our churches and taken lovingly to the beautiful location we Mississippi Baptists have at Central Hills.

It's encouraging and stimulating to me to hear the little guys from my church come home and relate stories about their great experiences at RA camp.

As I think of the goals of the Bold Mission Thrust, I realize that some of the girls who attend Garaywa and the boys who go to Central Hills will be taking the gospel "to the end of the world" in just a few years.

And how could any of us who are Mississippi Baptists see a church building which is in existence partially because of the State Mission Offering in past years without a surge of gratitude to God and appreciation for the generosity of people in this state?

Just a few days ago I noticed the large van which houses our disaster relief equipment parked outside the Baptist Building. As I walked from my car to the door of our building, I smiled to myself as I remembered the special and unusual ministry afforded people in distress, because of the State Mission offering.

All the other allocations on the offering list are just as special and just as important as the ones I've singled out. And we Mississippi Baptists are privileged to be able to support all these ministries as we give to the Margaret Lackey State Mission Offering and as we pray for all those who benefit from the offering.

Volunteer vanguard returns

By Wally Poor

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay—The vanguard of Mississippians who will participate in partnership in missions with Uruguayan Baptists have completed their assignment.

Mr. and Mrs. Perry Sanderford of Pinelake Baptist Church of Brandon worked in the New Dawn Baptist Church of Montevideo and with the Uruguayan Baptist Mission during its annual meeting.

Sanderford worked alongside co-pastor Daniel Kernke of the Montevideo church in enlarging the sanctuary by approximately 1/3 through the removing of partitions and also built a Lord's Supper table for the church. Mary Sanderford worked with the m.k.s. (missionary kids) during the annual meeting of Southern Baptist missionaries in the small South American republic.

The Sanderfords stayed with my wife, Betty, and I during the week. Each day we took Mrs. Sanderford to the Mission meeting with us while Sanderford stayed to do work on the church plant with the co-pastor. He ate with a different family of the church each day. Although he speaks no Spanish, Sanderford

could communicate by means of Kernke, who knows some English.

The Sanderfords arrived in Montevideo on Sunday, July 5, and left Saturday, July 11, for a week in Argentina with Missionary Glen Johnson and his family.

They were just marvelous, a really fine young couple. They plunged right in to life on the mission field. Perry got a real taste of Uruguayan life by working with Daniel and eating in the homes of our church members. They were all enchanted with him.

Mary won the m.k.s. hearts in the week she was with them. When we sang "God Be With You" to her on Friday evening after the end of the mission meeting, more than one pair of eyes were moist. We're thankful they could come and hope for many others like them in the upcoming months.

The church presented a gift and scrolls of appreciation to the Sanderfords and to the Pinelake church. The mission presented a scroll to the young couple and the m.k.s. presented them gifts.

"They were a really top notch couple," commented Jimmie D. Spann, president of the mission and coordinator of the Mississippi

volunteers. "I hope we have many more from Mississippi like them."

Kernke, co-pastor of the New Dawn church also had words of praise for the Sanderfords. "They were very sincere, very simple persons who had no trouble with going into even a humble home here to eat and converse. And I could see he (Perry) really loved the Lord. Even with my poor English, I could understand that. I was very well impressed," he said.

In addition to being in the services of the New Dawn church Sunday and Wednesday nights, the Sanderfords also attended a tea given for Uruguayan pastors during the annual meeting of the Uruguayan Baptist Mission. Speaking to the group, Perry told the pastors of Mississippi Baptists' desire to be involved as partners with Uruguayan Baptists in furthering the work here.

(Wally Poor, a journalist by profession, is pastor of New Dawn Church. During the mission meeting he was elected president of the mission to succeed Jimmy Spann.)



Mary Sanderford explains handcraft to older m.k.s. Michael Dubberly, seated, is the son of the Gene Dubberlys of Florida. David Roaten is the son of the Paul Roatens of Mississippi and Robin Evenson is the daughter of the Kenneth Evensons of Arizona. (Another photo on page 2)

Beeing there

TAMAROA, Ill. (BP)—What is the "sweetest" church in Illinois? It could be the Paradise Baptist Church, a rural congregation near Tamaroa, Ill.

"When we arrived for services, we found the pews and our carpeting completely covered with bees and honey," said Frank Cornia, one of the members.

"We noticed lots of bees outside on the previous Wednesday night, and had sprayed for them," Cornia explained. "But evidently we drove them inside, for on Sunday morning they were so thick we didn't even try to enter the auditorium."

Instead, members sealed off the sanctuary and met in the basement. "There was honey everywhere; you can't imagine how thick it was, all over the carpet and pews," Cornia said. "We had to employ a commercial cleaner to come in the following week."

Since pastor Wayne Reid was on vacation, John Wittmer of Pinckneyville, director of missions for Nine Mile Association, had the privilege of preaching to the "sweetest church in Illinois."

Housing Request Form Southern Baptist Convention June 15-17, 1982 New Orleans, Louisiana

Use of form

This form is similar to the one that has been used for the past three Southern Baptist Conventions. All individuals wishing to make hotel reservations for the Southern Baptist Convention must use this type of form. No phone reservations will be accepted by the New Orleans Housing Bureau.

Who should use the form

All individuals wishing hotel reservations should use this form. One form should be used for each room requested.

How to use the form

PART I—Accurately fill in the requested information. The confirmation will be mailed to the person whose name appears in Part I.

PART II—From the accompanying map, select five hotels of your choice. Place the name of the hotel on the line in Part II, in the order of your preference. You must select five (5) hotels.

PART III—Fill in all information requested for the room you wish to reserve. If you need more than one room, use a second sheet. Photo copies of the form may be used.

Detach the form and mail it to:
SBC Housing
334 Royal Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

NOTE: HOUSING REQUESTS POSTMARKED PRIOR TO OCTOBER 1, 1981, WILL BE PROCESSED AFTER THOSE POSTMARKED OCTOBER 1, 2, or 3.

Further information

If you have need for further information, contact: HOUSING INFORMATION, SBC Executive Committee, 460 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, Tennessee 37219, phone (615) 244-2355.

Additional forms are available from your state office.

HOTEL LOCATION AND RATES

NOTE

1. The Hyatt Regency is the Convention headquarters hotel, and the WMU headquarters hotel is the New Orleans Hilton.
2. The Convention and Pastors' Conference will meet in the Louisiana Superdome. The WMU will hold its meeting in the New Orleans Hilton Hotel.

CONVENTION HOTELS

Number	Hotel	Single	Double	Twin
1	Ambassador	\$35.00	\$40.00	N/A
2	Bismville House	\$45.00	\$60.00	\$80.00
3	Chateau Motor	N/A	\$38-50.00	\$44-50.00
4	Crescent Hotel	\$24.00	\$28.00	N/A
5	Dauphine Orleans	N/A	\$68.00	\$78.00
6	de la Poste Motor	\$40.00	\$60.00	N/A
7	Downtown Howard Johnson's	\$42.00	\$51.00	\$51.00
8	Fairmont Hotel	\$60.00	\$80.00	\$80.00
9	Fountain Bay Club Hotel	\$35.00	\$40.00	\$40.00
10	Holiday Inn-Chateau Le Moyne	\$69.00	\$83.00	\$83.00
11	Hyatt Regency	\$62.00	\$77.00	\$77.00
12	Inn on Bourbon Street	\$47.00	\$58.00	N/A
13	International Hotel	\$48.00	\$65.00	\$65.00
14	Le Pavillon Hotel	\$44.00	\$54.00	\$54.00
15	La Richelieu Motor	N/A	N/A	\$80.00
16	Maison Dupuy	\$45.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
17	Monteleone	\$54.00	\$54.00	\$89.00
18	New Orleans Hilton	\$60.00	\$77.00	\$77.00
19	New Orleans Marriott	\$50.00	\$65.00	\$65.00
20	Place D'Armes Hotel	N/A	\$50.00	\$50.00
21	Provincial Motor	\$55-60.00	\$55-60.00	\$55-60.00
22	Quality Inn-Midtown	\$48.00	\$58.00	\$58.00
23	Rault Center Hotel	\$44.00	N/A	\$54.00
24	Rodeway Inn-Downtown	\$32.00	\$38.00	\$42.00
25	Superdome Motor Inn	\$32.00	\$38.00	N/A
26	Travelodge Downtown	\$48.00	\$55.00	\$61.00
27	Vieux Carré Motor Lodge	\$45.00	\$55.00	\$55.00
28	Warwick Hotel	\$48.00	\$54.00	\$54.00

*Hotel has committed 150 or less rooms.

SBC statistics mixed

(Continued from page 1)

percent. "If we'd kept up with the rise in population in eight of these states, we would have 427,000 more Southern Baptists right now," Morris said.

He noted states in which Baptists lagged farthest behind total population growth—Texas, Georgia, Florida and North Carolina—were among the biggest gainers in SBC numerical growth.

They ranked first, second, fifth and sixth respectively in total membership growth. But combined, their number of members increased only about half as much as the populations in their states.

"This is alarming," Morris said. "We say we're in favor of Bold Mission Thrust and reaching our world and country for Christ, but we're not making gains. We're losing ground."

In contrast to the South, churches in the Northeast, West and North Central states recorded gains which surpassed population increases in those areas.

In the Northeast, where population growth has been rapid, Southern Baptist membership recorded a 109.7 percent gain. Western states grew 23.9

percent, but Baptists there increased 35.9 percent. Churches in North Central states grew by 22.4 percent, compared to a 4.0 percent population gain.

The percentages of those gains also were deceptive, because many of the increases were not numerically large, he said. For example, Southern Baptists in the Northeast more than doubled in the 1970's, but the actual gain was only a "modest" increase of 18,305 members.

Reasons for Southern Baptists falling behind in the fastest-growing states vary, Morris said. Early indicators show the denomination is not keeping pace with the increase in black and ethnic populations.

Another factor may be that Baptists have adopted a "large church" mentality, building more huge churches, but not enough new churches to keep up with shifts in population.

Morris said Home Mission Board researchers plan to continue studying church growth/population change factors in an investigation which may include as many as 10 reports.

"Right now, we know we're losing ground," he said. "We need to work to do to see just why."

Special offering garners \$16,894

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — The special offering on the final night of the Southern Baptist Convention in Los Angeles amounted to \$16,894.93, of which \$6,500 was used to help the Gaither Trio pay travel expenses.

According to Tim A. Hedquist, convention manager for the SBC Executive Committee, the Gaithers billed travel expenses of \$10,000, of which \$3,500 was paid from convention budget.

Also, \$10,000 was used to upgrade the sound system, required by the Gaithers for their final night performance. The system was used throughout the three-day meeting of the convention.

"A special offering such as the one taken in Los Angeles requires approval by the Order of Business committee and by the convention officers. Offerings have been taken at previous conventions, but always require prior approval," Hedquist said.

In previous conventions, he said, special offerings have been used to offset expenses for the image magnification system. No such system was used in Los Angeles.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
JUNE 15-17, 1982 NEW ORLEANS, LA

MAIL TO

SBC Housing
334 Royal Street
New Orleans, LA 70130

OFFICIAL HOUSING REQUEST FORM

• PLEASE READ CAREFULLY •

- PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL ITEMS TO ASSURE ACCURACY.
- COMPLETE EACH PART BELOW IN DETAIL FOR CORRECT AND RAPID COMPUTER PROCESSING.
- SHOULD MORE THAN ONE (1) ROOM BE NEEDED, SUPPLEMENTAL ROOMS LIST MUST BE ATTACHED USING SAME FORMAT AS IN PART III.
- ALL CONFIRMATIONS WILL BE SENT TO INDIVIDUAL INDICATED IN PART I.

PART I

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete requested data using abbreviations as necessary.

(NAME OF PERSON REQUESTING ROOMS)

If necessary, photo-copies of this form may be used to make additional reservations.

(FIRST NAME)										(LAST)									
(STREET ADDRESS OR P. O. BOX NUMBER)																			
(CITY)										(STATE)					(ZIP - U.S.A.)				
(Area Code)					(PHONE NUMBER)														

Must be received by Housing Bureau no later than May 17, 1982

PART II

INSTRUCTIONS: Select FIVE Hotels/Motels of your choice. No request will be processed without FIVE choices.

FIRST CHOICE

SECOND CHOICE

THIRD CHOICE

FOURTH CHOICE

FIFTH CHOICE

PART III

- INSTRUCTIONS:
1. PRINT OR TYPE NAMES OF ALL PERSONS OCCUPYING EACH ROOM.
 2. SELECT TYPE ROOM DESIRED WITH ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE DATES.
 3. SUPPLEMENTAL LIST FOR ADDITIONAL ROOM MUST USE SAME FORMAT.
 4. PRINT OR TYPE LAST-NAME FIRST.

Name of all persons occupying the room (print last name first)

1		3	
2		4	

Arrival Date

Departure Date

Arrival Time

Check type of room desired:

Single (1 bd/1 pr)

Triple (2 bd/3 pr)

Double (1 bd/2 pr)

Quad (2 bd/4 pr)

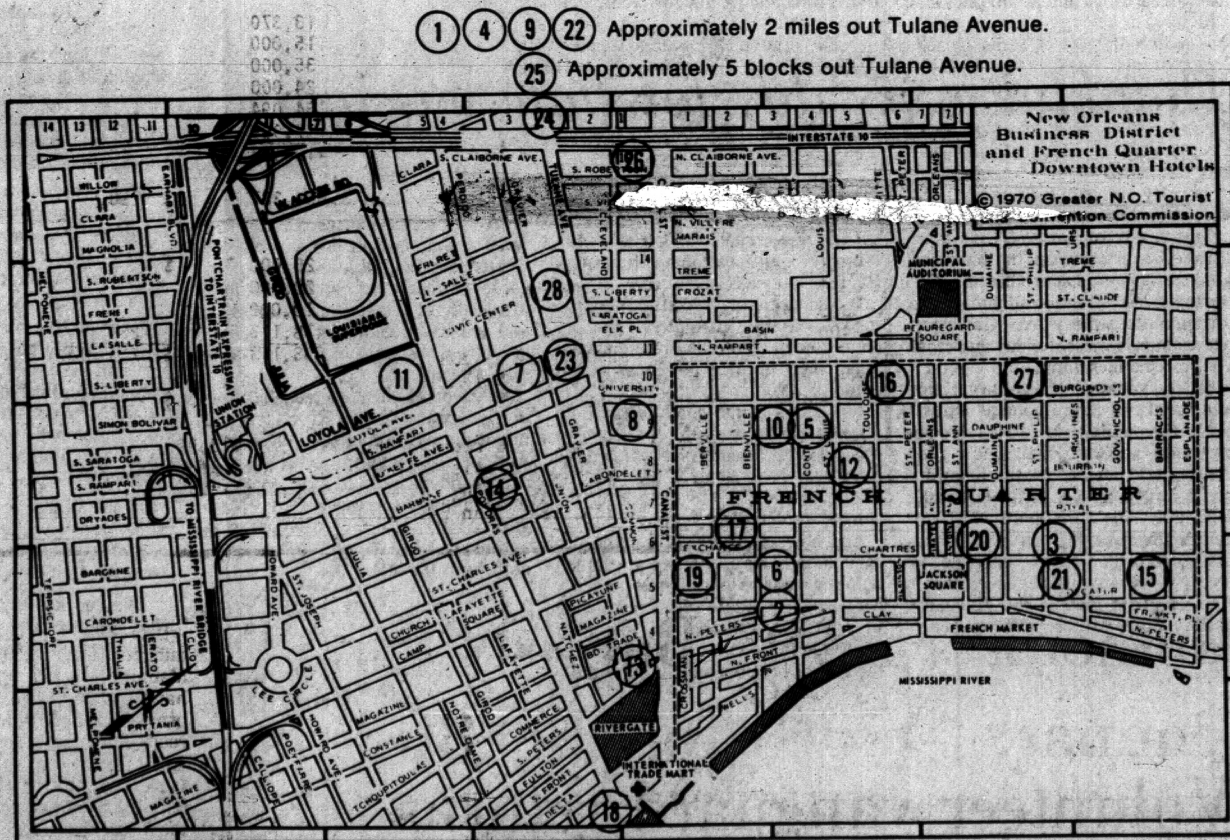
* Twin (2 bd/2 pr)

Other (specify)

IMPORTANT: No phone orders will be accepted. Hotel locations are shown on accompanying map. Make a photocopy of your order for your files. Housing Bureau processes reservations in order of date received. Confirmations will come direct from your hotel. DO NOT SEND DEPOSITS WITH RESERVATIONS. If rooms are not available at hotels of your choice, comparable reservations will be made at another cooperating hotel. If rate requested is not available, next available rate will be assigned. Cancellations and other changes may be made by phoning the hotel in which you have a reservation.

NOTE: PLEASE RECHECK ALL ITEMS FOR CORRECT INFORMATION

DO NOT MAIL FORMS POSTMARKED BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 1981



Carpentry as ministry

Perry Sander, Church in Uruguay. (Story on page 1).

SKI THE ROCKIES.

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10300 N. CENTRAL EXPRESSWAY SUITE 280 DALLAS, TEXAS 75231

Conferences in nine places will train Brotherhood, RA leaders

Brotherhood Leadership Training Conferences will be held in nine locations, Sept. 14 and 15, all beginning at 7 p.m. and concluding at 9 p.m.

Conferences to meet Sept. 14 will be at Crenshaw Church, Crenshaw; Calvary Church, Tupelo; First Church, Indianola; and Calvary Church, Starkville.

Conferences to meet Sept. 15 will be at First Church, Brandon; Forest Church, Forest; First Church, Hazlehurst; First Church, Collins; and First Church, Biloxi.

The purpose is "to train, inform, and equip church Brotherhood directors, Baptist Men's leaders, and Royal Ambassador directors and counselors," according to Paul Harrell, director of the state Brotherhood department, which is sponsoring the meetings.

Leaders of conferences for Brotherhood directors and Baptist Men's leaders will include Trent Grubbs, pastor at Crenshaw; Robert Hanvey, pastor at First, Hazlehurst; Lewis Myers, Cleveland layman; Farris Smith, pastor, First, Magnolia; Bill Hardy, minister of education, First, Columbus; Nat Bullock and Norris Stampley, Jackson laymen; A. C. Johnson, president of Clarke College;

John Hopper, pastor, Southside, Meridian; Jerry Wise, pastor, First Church, McLaughlin, Hattiesburg; Jon Doler, pastor, First, Raleigh; and Jimmy D. Porter, pastor, Grace Memorial, Gulfport.

Leaders of conferences for Royal Ambassador leaders will be Rusty Griffin, consultant, state Brotherhood

department; David McCubbin, minister of education, First, Meridian; Paul Harper, pastor, First, Lexington; Doug Day, minister of youth, First, Starkville; Dan Wynn, minister of education, First, Natchez; David Perry, pastor, Bunker Hill Church, Columbia; and Paul Aultman, pastor, First, Ocean Springs.

Tom Stribling Scholarship will honor Broadmoor's chief usher

A scholarship fund for worthy students at Mississippi College has been established with the Mississippi Baptist Foundation in honor of Tom G. Stribling, chief usher of the Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson.

A spokesman for friends of Stribling who created the fund indicated a desire to honor one "who symbolizes the spirit of Broadmoor Baptist Church."

He is one of the 13 people who met in his store in 1947 to discuss the possible organization of a church in the area surrounding the Broadmoor church.

A five-day revival meeting, held in Mr. Stribling's store, provided the im-

petus for the ultimate establishment of Broadmoor Baptist Church.

Of the 13 people who were at the original meeting to discuss the matter, seven are still active members of Broadmoor Baptist Church.



Left to right: John Clower, Grenes Freiler, Tom G. Stribling, David R. Grant, pastor, and at front desk, Steve Sanders.

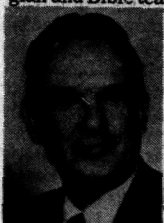
Miss. Baptist Convention Board Proposed Budget 1982

	Basic	Advance	Total
INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES			
Education Commission (Emergency)			
Christian Education	\$ 2,387,000	\$ 232,000	\$ 2,619,000
Christian Education Capt. Needs	425,000		425,000
Mississippi Baptist Medical Center			
217 Education	26,000	4,100	30,100
218 Hardship Assistance	67,300	10,600	77,900
219 Laundry Construction	9,800	2,200	12,000
224 Med. Ctr. Capt. Needs	55,000		55,000
225 Children's Village	236,500	29,300	265,800
226 Ministerial Education Board	68,355	2,500	70,855
227 Christian Action	105,100		105,100
228 Baptist Foundation	106,075		106,075
229 Historical Commission	26,400		26,400
289 Mississippi Baptist Seminary	114,502		114,502
SUB-TOTAL	\$ 3,627,032	\$ 280,700	\$ 3,907,732
BOARD PROGRAMS			
345 Conv. Bd. Capt. Needs	\$ 384,000	\$	\$ 384,000
347 Gulfshore Assembly Programming	110,000		110,000
348 Central Hills Baptist Assembly			
349 Gulfshore Operations	94,000		94,000
350 Program Director's Office	95,986		95,986
355 Youth Night	10,000		10,000
360 Communications	45,833	17,443	63,276
361 Church Administration	76,764		76,764
362 Church Building Services	31,571		31,571
364 WMU	234,830		234,830
365 Camp Garaywa	18,252		18,252
367 Sunday School	258,645		258,645
368 Church Training	229,036		229,036
369 Brotherhood	152,112		152,112
370 Church Music	153,457		153,457
371 Student Work	492,982		492,982
344 Student Centers Capt. Needs	100,000		100,000
373 Evangelism	90,893		90,893
374 Cooperative Missions	238,953		238,953
375 Stewardship & Coop. Prog. Prom.	157,371		157,371
376 Subsidies to Associations	108,000		108,000
377 Church-Minister Rel. & Annuity	118,200		118,200
378 General Services (Bldg. Maint., Bldg. Serv. & Basic Telephone)	464,610		464,610
380 Baptist Record	233,427		233,427
385 Annuity Participation	550,000		550,000
387 Social Security & Ins. (Board)	339,000		339,000
SUB-TOTAL	\$ 4,787,922	\$ 17,443	\$ 4,805,365
389 Public Relations	\$ 13,370	\$	\$ 13,370
390 Convention Sessions	15,000		15,000
391 Convention Annual, Diary, etc.	35,000		35,000
392 Convention Board & Comm. Meetings	24,000		24,000
393 Exec. Secty-Treasurer's Office	134,094		134,094
394 Business Office	197,969		197,969
SUB-TOTAL	\$ 419,433		\$ 419,433
CAUSES - GRAND TOTAL	\$ 8,834,387	\$ 298,143	\$ 9,132,530
SBC CAUSES			
351 Sou. Am. Missions Coordinator	\$ 25,000	\$	\$ 25,000
397 SBC Video Cassette Program	20,000		20,000
399 Mission Service Corps. Prog.	10,000		10,000
400 Southern Baptist Convention	4,478,113	254,857	4,732,970
SUB-TOTAL	\$ 4,533,113	\$ 254,857	\$ 4,787,970
GRAND TOTAL - ALL CAUSES	\$13,367,500	\$ 553,000	\$13,920,500

Cooperative Program Funds received in excess of \$13,920,500 are to be allocated to Mississippi College School of Law to a maximum of \$250,000. Any funds over this - SBC-34%, Central Hills-33%, Christian Education-33%.

Clyde Francisco dies of heart attack at 65

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—Clyde T. Francisco, Southern Baptist theologian and Bible teacher, died Aug. 21 of



an apparent heart attack while delivering a revival sermon in Helena, Ga.

Francisco, who was 65, has been the John R. Sampey professor of Old Testament interpretation at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., since 1944. He is the author of the current Adult Bible Teacher quarterly for the Life and Work Sunday School series.

Funeral services were Aug. 25 on the seminary campus. During his ministerial career, Francisco was pastor or taught at seminaries in Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, England, Malaysia, and the Philippines.

A native of Virginia, Francisco graduated from the University of Richmond in 1939 with a perfect grade point average.

He received a masters degree in theology from Southern Seminary in 1942 and a doctorate in theology from the school two years later. He also pursued advanced studies at Stanford University and Harvard

School, and at Oxford and Cambridge universities in England.

Francisco is survived by his wife, the former Nancy Lee Anderson, who is on the faculty of Boyce Bible School, a division of Southern Seminary.

Other survivors include a son, Don R. Francisco of Atlanta; a daughter, Carol Lee Perkins of Louisville; two sisters, Verna Sohn of West Palm Beach, Fla., and Claudia Francisco of San Diego; and two grandsons.

The family requests any contributions be made to the Clyde T. Francisco Preaching Awards fund at Southern Seminary.

Methodists invite Baptists to seminar: "Video for the '80s"

"Video for the Eighties: The Church Gets Involved," is the theme for a fall seminar Sept. 11-12 at the First United Methodist Church in Starkville, co-sponsor of the seminar with the North

Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Interested churches are invited to send representatives to hear six speakers from throughout the South

with broadcast experience. The speakers will address ways in which churches can become involved in this form of communication.

They include award-winning media specialist Jeanne B. Luckett of Jackson, who has experience in print and broadcast media; Donald R. Wood of Macon, Ga., director of the Good News Studio, a community cable channel; Lynn McCroskey of Montgomery, Ala., who has worked with sound systems including those of the First Baptist Church of Birmingham; Carl Rhodes, minister of the First United Methodist Church of Shreveport, La., where he produces weekly closed-circuit video programs; Charlie Hailey, Canton, Miss., who established Canton Cable Vision in 1976; Sam O. Morris, associate minister of First United Methodist Church, Starkville, who is involved in helping to develop a concept of community television for the church and small-town community.

Cost of the seminar is \$50 per person, in addition to a \$15 registration fee. The fees include provision of dinner on Friday, a continental breakfast and a lunch on Saturday.

For more information on accommodations and special group fees, contact Laura Robertson, Media Coordinator, at First United Methodist Church, Drawer 728, Starkville, MS 39759, or call (601) 323-5722.

Louisville, Ky. (EP)—A Missouri minister, along with the son of an atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair, claims to have the answer on how to return prayer and Bible reading to the classroom. Bill Murray, son of Mrs. O'Hair, and Cecil Todd of Joplin, Mo., said in Louisville July 27 that they will distribute to students notebooks that have the Ten Commandments printed on the front cover and the Lord's Prayer on the back.

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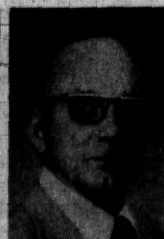
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Parkway, Pascagoula, will sponsor Bible Conference



Patterson



Eddleman

Parkway Church, Pascagoula, will have a Bible Conference, September 17-20, featuring as speakers, Paige Patterson, H. Leo Eddleman, and George Davis. Patterson is President of Criswell Center for Biblical Studies at First Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex. Eddleman is the former president of New Orleans

Seminary (1959-1970), and George Davis is Professor of Old Testament at the Criswell Center for Biblical Studies.

Kenna Byrd, Pastor of Parkway Church, announces that there will be morning services, 10 to 12 and afternoon services, 2-4 on Friday and Saturday. Also, night services will be held Thursday through Saturday, at 7. Sunday services will follow a regular schedule with preaching at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

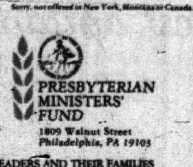
Special music will be provided by Parkway Church Adult Choir; The Jacksonaires; John Pritchett, minister of music at Eastlawn Church; Roger Phillips, minister of music, First Church, Gautier; Franklin Creek Baptist Church Youth Ensemble, and other local talent.

A nursery will be provided for all services. Additional information can be obtained by calling 475-6660.

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The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

State missions offering . . .

Let's pray, and let's give

Income for the Margaret Lackey Offering in Mississippi historically is less than either the Lottie Moon Offering or the Annie Armstrong Offering. While the latter two offerings and their areas of assistance are well known, the name Margaret Lackey also comes in third in terms of recognition.

It is the offering taken annually for the cause of state missions, and it is used for needs that are every bit as important as are those funded by the two more familiar offerings.

We are trying to be bold in the last quarter of this century, but sometimes it seems that our bold talk outstrips our bold actions by some distance. When we are able to summon our courage and begin to put boldness behind our actions, it is usually for causes that are off somewhere. Missions work right here in Mississippi, however, requires just as much courage and just as much boldness as those efforts that could be expended anywhere in the world.

And the money is just as important. The bold giving and the bold going that are required to witness in a pro-

ductive way in Mississippi will be done for the cause of the same Lord that we serve in overseas missions, and the people who are reached will be just as lost before they make their decisions for Christ. After those decisions they will be just as saved.

The breakdown of the offering goals reveals a list that is just about the same as what would be used to support needs to be found on a foreign mission field.

The 1981 goal for the Margaret Lackey Offering is \$360,000. Here are the items to be aided by that income:

New missions—\$110,000
Pastoral aid—\$10,000
Church building aid—\$13,000
Central Hills Baptist Retreat—\$80,000
Special ministries—\$24,100
(These include: National Baptists—\$1,300, Choctaw Indians—\$2,800, Parchman Penitentiary—\$20,000)
Disaster relief—\$35,000
Garaywa operation—\$60,000
Garaywa improvements—\$20,000
Missions awareness—\$7,900

One might say he doesn't see much in that list in the area of witnessing to the lost, but look again. Every item in that list relates to witnessing to the lost except for disaster relief. We will go and aid the victims of a disaster no matter whether they are lost or saved. The fact that we go, however, reflects the same love for humanity that was born into us when we became new creatures in Christ. It is the love of Christ shining through us. And though we go with the purpose of aiding the disaster victims regardless of their spiritual condition, the fact that such love is exhibited will cause the lost who are aided to take note.

Frankly, \$360,000 is a piddling amount. It represents little over 50 cents per Mississippi Baptist. Our goals and our income for the Lottie Moon offering are many times that amount, and the same for the Annie Armstrong Offering are much greater.

Those who set the goals, however, must do so from a realistic perspective. They have to make plans based on

the experience of the past. Isn't it about time we shook free of the blinders that have hindered us from seeing the needs right here among us? Isn't it about time we gave the future planners of state missions ministries a new and enlarged perspective from which to plan?

We can do it. We do it for other offerings. Let's do it for ourselves.

All of the money we can scrape up and put into the Margaret Lackey Offering envelopes, however, will bear no fruit unless the effort is bathed in prayer. The season of prayer for state missions is Sept. 13 to 16. If anything, we need to be more faithful in the prayer ministry of this special season than we are in the offering ministry. We will be ready to provide the money if we will tune ourselves into the Lord's will.

The theme for this year is "We Are Called to be God's People." Let's be faithful to that calling. Let's pray, and let's give.



Faces And Places
By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Roy Rudolph Collum

Roy Rudolph Collum retired last week as director of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's department of evangelism. When he was born August 18, 1916, he was named Roy for his father, a Baptist preacher, and Rudolph for the doctor, Rudolph Wilson, who delivered him.

Optimist is what he is. He said, "I could never look on the dark side of things. I feel like God's people ought to be happy, to laugh and enjoy living."

Youth evangelism conference, 1980, sponsored by his department, reached a high spiritual plane. It furnished a nice crown, I thought, for Brother Collum's years of evangelistic ministry.

Reveries he has preached by the scores. Just while pastor at Philadelphia, Miss., he preached in practically every church in Neshoba County, plus three revivals a year in other places.

Unusual is the fact that he was the first ordained minister to be chairman of the Brotherhood Commission, SBC (1964-65). He was president of the Children's Village trustees when the old campus on Woodrow Wilson was sold. He was chairman of the Executive Committee (MBCB) during the 50's, first VP of the Miss. Baptist Convention, 1964-65, and chairman of its first Assemblies Committee, at the time Kittiwake was bought.

Doesn't he get tired when one is packing up to move out, but on top of his desk and among the boxes I saw a sign that claimed "A cluttered desk is a sign of genius."

Ordination as a minister came to him in 1938, before a church called him. He got ordained to perform a wedding ceremony of friends. But that fall the church at Buna, Texas, called him to his first pastorate, at \$40 a month half-time. He had fought the call to the ministry because his Methodist fiancée threatened to drop him if he became a preacher. When he did, she kept her word, and he thought the world had ended. "But I didn't know Georgie was out in the future waiting for me."

Louisiana is where he was born—at Shreveport. But his father was called to a church at Hughes Springs, Texas, and they moved there when Roy was 10.

Pastorates at nine places preceded his 1970 move to Jackson, where he is a member of First Church.

Hobby? His is wood working. He and his wife have been remodeling their house at 4428 Childress Drive.

Children at his house included a girl and a boy. Now he has one grandson. Jan lives in Birmingham, Ala. Bill is minister of music and youth at Saltillo, Miss.

Oil City, La., "oil field town with six saloons," was the place where he was pastor, 1944-47, during World War II. When he and Georgie got married in June, 1944, he was pastor in Atlanta (La.). On their way to Caddo Lake during their honeymoon, they stopped at Oil City. A man at the hotel introduced himself and asked, "Would you come up here and be our pastor?" "I'll have to think about that. I didn't even know you needed a pastor!" His father had also returned to Louisiana. During the war, their ration cards and mail kept getting mixed, so the son added a Jr. to his name.

Liberty Church he served 1951-59. Before then he was at Gibsland, La., where W. C. Fields' father was chairman of deacons and uncle was Church Training director.

Louisiana College is where he went to school, plus New Orleans Seminary—and a year at Baylor. While he was at Louisiana College, Georgie Sealy was BSU president at Dodd College, Shreveport. The Dodd BSUs gave a party and invited the BSU from Louisiana College. That's how Roy and Georgie met.

Unrattled—cool, calm, and collected—that's the appearance he generally gives.

May he have many happy years of

Nearly missed the milepost . . .

Appreciation for opportunity

With the last issue of the Baptist Record I completed five years as editor, and with this issue I begin my sixth year. The anniversary almost escaped me. It hasn't seemed to be much time at all. I suppose the proper time to have made mention of such a thing as this would have been in the last issue in August; but, frankly, I forgot about it.

Nevertheless, because five years would seem to represent a milepost of sorts, I feel it would be appropriate to make an expression of appreciation.

Certainly the reception in Mississippi has been most gracious. It has been noted on my part, and I am very appreciative of the Baptist Building and of the staff that have been affording me the opportunity of ministry and friendship during these five years and also during the two previous years as I first came here from Texas.

Though we have never specifically spelled it out, the message that we have tried to deliver through the Baptist Record during these five years has been that while everything is not al-

ways completely rosy in Southern Baptist and Mississippi Baptist life, the positives far outweigh the negatives; and the program for the best good of all is to seek to move together to accomplish the most good for the cause of Christ in spite of any relatively minor differences that we may have. Baptists have never been known to insist that everyone must conform completely. We seek the Lord's will through an expression of majority opinion, and then we seek to move on together.

As far as I know, this principle has not been spelled out before; but it is what has guided us through the years. Evidently, the great body of Mississippi Baptists agree with this philosophy; for the fellowship and spirit among the people in this state are as fine as are to be found anywhere.

I have appreciated very much the opportunity of serving in this place. I appreciate very much the fact that Joe Odle and Earl Kelly were instrumen-

tal in my being afforded this opportunity. I appreciated the confidence of that earlier personnel committee chaired by John Barnes, and I have appreciated the support of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and of the Baptist Record Advisory Committee.

I am not a preacher. I am a journalist. I grew up in a small-town parsonage, however; and during my 20 years in Dallas I spent the better part of it on church staffs on a part-time basis serving in whatever capacity that was needed—associate pastor, educational director, minister of music, or pastor's confidant. It was a rich experience. I feel I learned a lot, and some strong friendships were forged during that period.

And that bit of reminiscing brings us back to the present. And surely it is good to be here.

Baptists are great people. Because we refuse to bow the knee to anyone but the Lord, we do have some differences. But we move on in miraculous

fashion in spite of them. The Lord uses us mightily.

There are those who wonder how the Lord could use such a hodge-podge group of people as Southern Baptists. The answer is simple—because we individually make ourselves usable. And that's the only way it can work. The Lord cannot use a convention. He can use only the individuals who make up the convention.

Growing up in a little town in the cattle, sheep, and goat country of West Texas, I never thought I'd be in a position to be right in the middle of everything that goes on among Baptists in the nation. Those were plain and simple people at Merton, and I am grateful for the part they played in my background. Their simplicity spoke of the depth of their character.

And thank you, Mississippi Baptists, for the opportunity of serving you through these years that I have been here. It is a privilege indeed.—DTM

Another for . . .

Roy Collum retires

Another tenure has come to a close at the Baptist Building with the retirement of Roy Collum as director of the Department of Evangelism. And while the Lord always provides someone to step in and take up the reins (and certainly, this occasion is no exception), it is always a little sad to come to the time when friends bid us farewell and move into retirement.

No great eulogy here, though surely words of praise would be fitting and deserved. This is simply to say to a friend who has cleaned out his desk and interrupted his regular employment here that we wish for him the richest blessings of the Lord as he extends his ministry into this new phase in his life.

Roy has spent 30 years of his minis-

try in Mississippi. He has already left a mark on the state, and we are sure that his time of significant service is not over by any means. He spent 19 years as pastor at Liberty and Philadelphia, and he was evangelism director for 11 years. They were fruitful.

We know he will be busy in this new direction of life, but we hope that he will find time to check in at the Baptist

Building from time to time. We need to be able to keep up with his endeavors.

An interesting statistic was pointed out by Earl Kelly, executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, in discussing Roy's retirement with the board. It was that during Roy's tenure as evangelism director there were 190,000 baptisms in the state. What a magnificent testimony!

Guest opinion . . .

On choosing a seminary

By Russ Bush

In theological education our future is now. Unprecedented numbers of men and women are being admitted to our seminaries. The quality of our administrative leadership is certainly not to be denied, and the character of a school is surely shaped by its administration. But I did not choose a seminary because of its president. In fact, until I arrived on campus I had

never seen or heard of him. In chapel the first day he did not think to introduce himself, and it was not at all clear to me who he was.

Some faculty members flatter themselves to think that students travel from afar to sit in their classes. Perhaps some do. But I cannot say that I had ever heard of more than one or two of the faculty members of the seminary I attended. And of those I had heard of, I never sat in a single class that they taught.

From the human and purely rational standpoint, I made my decision to attend a particular seminary based on the courses offered in my particular fields of interest. The catalog descriptions of those courses gave me a basis for comparing one seminary with another. God had called me and had directed me in my college preparation. My background and interests were in certain fields. So I looked for a school that offered what seemed to me to be the best continued preparation in those areas. When I got there I could never take everything that I had marked in that first catalog.

Only later did I realize why I really chose the seminary which I did. God wanted me there at that place at that time. I don't mean to sound too simple or to speak in pat phrases. God had provided an administration, a faculty, and a curriculum that I needed. Today I wish my president were even better known in my home state and in my home church. It is unfortunate that the faculty has not been given as much ex-

posure and acclaim as they deserve for their dedication to and qualifications for theological education. The catalogs never have made it entirely clear why or how or for what reason the reason curriculum has been devised. But God still leads, and He still gives His best to those who leave the choice with Him.

I don't know which school God will lead you to attend. He may send you to a Bible Institute, or to an independent Baptist or a non-denominational seminary. Specifically I recommend our Southern Baptist Convention supported schools, but God must lead in the decision whatever it is. I do think that God can speak through a catalog description. He leads through former students whom you may know. God may call you to a special task. One school may better suit your needs than another. But God can call you to a particular seminary just as easily as He can call you into the ministry itself.

Is God calling you into a vocational Christian ministry? Many who read these words are already engaged in local church ministries. Our convention-supported Baptist seminaries can train you to do an even better job of serving your people. No one is ever adequate to the task in his own strength. We all need the power of God's Spirit to meet the challenge.

Carpenters build houses with hammers and saws; Doctors need scalpels and gauze. The hard working man needs tools in

his hand, And lawyers must study their laws. So why, man of God, Do you think it so odd, That the Spirit should long for your mind. To be filled with the tools That the Spirit can use To preach Christ as your Saviour and mine?

Our Lord can use a yielded life whether educated or not. But he used the scholarly Paul to write a great deal more of the New Testament than the fisherman of great faith, Peter. God can use you to reach many people for Christ. But he gave you a mind as a part of his image in you. God expects your best.

The seminary is under a mandate to teach the Word of God in all of its fullness of truth. We may forever disagree with one another on some points of interpretation; yet our norm, our standard of truth, must ever be the words of Scripture.

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!

What more can He say than to you He hath said, To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled.

Russ Bush, a Mississippian, is assistant professor of philosophy of religion at Southwestern Seminary.

Bangladesh church baptizes record 88

BANGLADESH—A Baptist church in Bangladesh recently set a record when it baptized 88 people in one afternoon. Four days later 11 others were baptized in another location.

The previous high was set in 1975 when one church baptized 52 people. Though evangelistic work in Bangladesh has been tenuous in recent years, with some missionary groups having to leave the country, Baptists continue to report strong growth. The 1980 statistics show more than 900 members with slightly more than 100 baptized during the year.

Southern Baptist missionaries in Bangladesh long have been involved in agricultural and work skills programs to help improve the lives of the Bangladeshi people.

Translation work ends in Panama

BURBACH, Germany (EP)—The German headquarters of the Wycliffe Bible Translators in Burbach has announced that the mission has had to give up mission fields in Panama, but is able to begin new translation projects in West Africa and the Pacific area. The government of Panama informed Wycliffe that the missionaries had to be out of the country by July 6th. Extension of the contract with the state, which forms the basis for Wycliffe's activities, had already been refused two years ago, but the work had continued on the basis of an oral agreement.

Wycliffe missionaries in this Central American country have been working on Bible translations into five Indian languages. It is unclear whether these projects can be continued, and if so, how. Panama has a population of about 1.9 million, more than 93 per cent of whom belong to the Catholic Church and only six per cent to Protestant churches. The number of Indian inhabitants is quoted as being 73,000.

In the West African states Benin, Mali and Niger, on the other hand, the mission has been able to begin new translations.

Alaskans elect Judy Rice editor

SOLDOTNA, Alaska (BP)—Judy Rice was named editor of the Alaska Baptist Messenger during the 36th annual meeting of the Alaska Baptist Convention, Aug. 11-13.

She will continue to be director of the Woman's Missionary Union. She is a native of Birmingham, Ala., and a graduate of Samford University

and Southern Seminary. She has been an employee of the Alaska convention since December 1968.

Alaska messengers also adopted their first \$1 million-plus budget, voting a 1982 budget of \$1,039,044. They will send 30 percent to SBC causes, the same percentage as last year.

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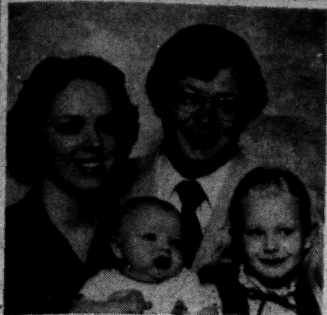
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Staff Changes



The Stricklens

Wildwood Church, Clinton, has called Steve Stricklen as minister of education, administration and youth coordination. A graduate of the University of Alabama and Southern Seminary, he goes to Clinton from Poplar Springs Drive Church, Meridian, where he served as director of activities. He and his wife Nan have two children Sarah, 5, and Simon, 1.

Tony Henry has accepted the pastorate of New Prospect Church, Leake County. He has served as pastor of one other church in Neshoba County. He is married to the former Kay Turner of Walnut Grove. They have one daughter, Tonya Kay, 10.

Hebron Church of Sardis has called Michael Hunt as pastor. Hunt was graduated from Mississippi State and New Orleans Seminary. He has served as pastor in Attala, Grenada, and Northwest Associations, and moved to Sardis from Highland Church, Senatobia. He and his wife, Marcia, have one daughter, Natasha, 2.

Robert N. Palmer has resigned as pastor of Crystal Ridge Church, Winston County.

Ken Anderson has resigned as pastor of East Louisville Church, Winston County, to become pastor of First Church, Saltillo, near Tupelo.

Mary Frank Kirkpatrick, missionary on leave of absence from Liberia, is serving as kindergarten director at the Noxapater Church.

Travis Taylor has been called as minister of music at Leflore Church, Grenada County.

Bill McClellan has resigned the pastorate of First Church, Louise (Humphreys) to become pastor of Calvary Southern Baptist Church, P. O. Box 37, Clarinda, Iowa 51632. He is a graduate of Mid-America Seminary, Memphis, Tenn. McClellan, who had been pastor at First, Louise, for four years, arrived on the field in Iowa Aug. 21.

Jim Phillips has resigned as pastor of Chapel Hill Church, Utica. He will graduate from Mississippi College in December and begin his seminary work at Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth in January, 1982.

Claude Fortenberry, pastor of Sand Hill Church (George-Greene) recently preached in a revival in California. He was formerly a pastor in California.

Bryce Evans has resigned as pastor of Agricola Church, George-Greene Association. He will continue to serve as a professor at the University of South Alabama.

Kathy West has accepted a position as director of kindergarten at 38th Avenue Church, Hattiesburg. She was previously minister of education and director of kindergarten and day care at First Church, Mendenhall.



Calvary Church, Columbia, Ken Jordan, pastor, sent a group to Sunday School Leadership Conference at Gulfshore Assembly. It was the first year a group from Calvary had attended meetings of this nature.

G.A.'S AND ACTEENS OF FIRST CHURCH, TUPELO, had a recognition service on Aug. 9. The G.A.'s pictured at left with their leader are Cindy Sappington, recipient of badges for Adventure 1 and 2 and Tina Dillon, recipient of badge for Adventure 1. Their director is Jenny Smothers.



Acteens pictured above with their escorts and crown bearers: (left to right) Queen Patti Lee, escort Bruce Sanders, crown bearer Courtney Smith; Queen Laura Wright, escort Scott Tindoll, crown bearer Allyson Whitley; Queen Regent Ruthie Montgomery, escort Eddie Baker and cape bearer Heather Montgomery; Queen Jan Williams, escort Kevin Sanders, crown bearer Mary Elizabeth Jenkins; Queen Kathy Jenkins, escort Dave Randall, crown bearer Molly Robinson. The Acteen leaders are Nellie Tindoll and Michelle Rainey (not pictured). A church-wide reception was held following the service. (Photos by David Smothers).

Construction volunteers needed for Ceibo church

ATLANTA — Baptist men with construction skills are needed to build a church building for Ceibo Baptist Church in Ceibo, Puerto Rico, said Bill Wilson, Home Mission Board special mission ministries consultant.

Individuals or groups are needed to volunteer for one or two weeks in September or October, Wilson said.

"The structure is a concrete block building with an asphalt shingle roof," said Ed Richardson, church extension director for Puerto Rico. "Most any construction man could do the needed wiring and plumbing," he added.

The Ceibo church is an English

speaking congregation with about 100 members and is located near the U.S. Naval Air base, Richardson said.

Richardson said the volunteers will be housed in the church building and can use the church kitchen for cooking.

For more information, contact Bill Wilson at (404) 873-4041, or write him at 1350 Spring St., NW, Atlanta, GA. 303367.

Instead of giving yourself a pat on the back, try giving yourself a shove.

There is a lot of difference between getting up steam and being full of hot air.

Revival Results

Zion Church, Pontotoc: Aug. 2-7; Joe Holcomb and Larry Davis, leading; 16 professions of faith, within the church and community; 8 professions of faith from other churches; one profession of faith the Sunday after the revival. Bobby Clark, pastor, said, "God blessed us in a marvelous moving of His Holy Spirit. Revival continues as new life has sparked an increase in attendance in all services and a deepening concern on the part of many for our church and the lost."

Powhatan Point Baptist Chapel, Steubenville, Ohio: Aug. 18-21; Joe Holcomb, Tupelo, evangelist; Dwight Massengill, pastor; 19 professions of faith; four additions by letter.

Longview Heights, Olive Branch (Northwest): Aug. 9-14; Manuel Weeks of Indianola, evangelist; Tom Larrimore of Jackson, music evangelist; 11 for baptism; 13 of transfer of letter; Armond D. Taylor pastor.

Corinth (Jasper) seven build church in Illinois

Seven men from Corinth Church, Jasper Association, Heidelberg, went on a mission trip to Lynwood, Ill., 30 miles southeast of Chicago, July 17-21, to assist Christian Fellowship Baptist Church of Lynwood, Ill. in its building program.

A new sanctuary is to replace an old house that has been serving as a church and Sunday School facility. Those making the trip by church van and auto were the pastor of Corinth Church, J. E. Holloman, Clyde Walters, George Myrick, David McKee, Roy Glen Cotton, T. C. Myrick and Scott Patrick. This trip was completely financed by Corinth's Brotherhood department. The men were suc-

cessful in their effort to contribute some of their carpentry skills to help provide Christian Fellowship Church and its pastor, Jerry Greer, with a new worship facility.

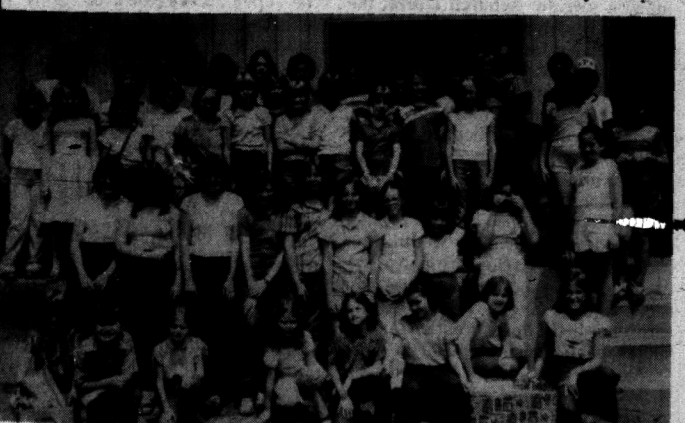
The basement and sanctuary floor of the 45' x 80' building had already been built. Corinth's men started in the basement, building walls and partitions for Sunday School rooms, kitchen, fellowship hall and restrooms. Stairs were then built on each end of the building. Moving upstairs, the men started on some partition walls there. This will be the first Southern Baptist church in Lynwood, Ill., where the area is predominantly Catholic and Dutch Reform.

THE VILLAGE VIEW

FROM
Baptist Children's Village
P. O. Box 11306 Jackson, MS 39213

Special Projects Come In All Shapes and Sizes

Waltham Baptist Association G.A.'s and Acteens recently presented a cash love gift to The Village as well as boxes and bags full of assorted school supplies. Churches represented by the girls include Salem Baptist Church, Tylertown Baptist Church, Mesa Baptist Church, New Zion Baptist Church, Lexie Baptist Church, and Union Baptist Church. The girls, their sponsors, and staff member E. J. Hardy are shown during a tour of The Village's India Nunnery Campus.



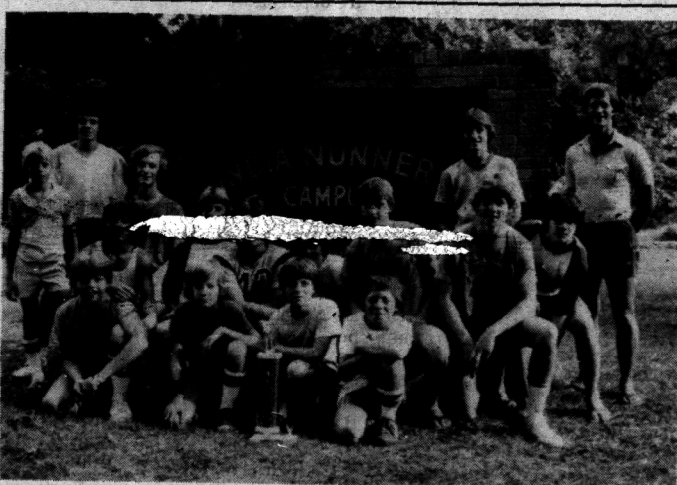
Members of Hopewell Baptist Church, Choctaw Association, long-time Village friend, Terry Willis, and Village home life director Henry Glaze are shown moments after the group has loaded a brand new 25 cubic foot deep freezer in a Village vehicle to be brought to The India Nunnery Campus. As a church-wide project, the members have been hard at work freezing and preparing food to be brought in the freezer as a special gift to The Village. As a response to Village staff members' comments regarding the hard work involved in all the food preparation, one of the Hopewell members stated that "labors of love never seem like hard work!" In addition to this gift, the church earlier forwarded a check to provide a portion of the money needed for the equipment to present the multi-media work, "Children: Our Special Trust." Roger Griffith is the pastor of Hopewell Baptist Church.



The Baptist Men's group of South Louisville Baptist Church recently presented a special designated offering to be used to purchase a new refrigerator for one of the cottages. Previously, the group had requested information regarding any specific areas of need, and responded by the love gift as well as two used appliances.

Members of First Baptist Church, Mize, recently sent food gifts and clothing following a Village presentation in their church. Their interest in Village work has prompted this plus additional gifts throughout the summer.

For these gifts and for others... we are grateful. We are able through this method to meet areas of need, thus freeing funds to help meet operational costs. Again, special thanks to all who are choosing this special kind of "over and above" giving.



#1

This Village team recently won the championship of the Junior High League in the Hinds-Madison Softball League. Congratulations!

Our bosses

Not often enough do we comment on the vital contribution to The Village's child care ministry which is made by the members of our governing body, The Board of Trustees. Not often enough do we even identify them.

High on the list of blessed advantages which The Village, its children and staff enjoy because we are a part of a Mississippi Baptist cooperative mission effort, are qualities such as interest and energy, talent and credibility which so characterize the lives and the commitment of the Christians who have served The Village during the 21-year life of the current administration, as trustees.

Like other official agencies of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, the membership of our Board of Trustees is nominated and elected by the Convention—normally, five individuals each year for a three-year term, with eligibility for renomination and re-election to one successive three-year term.

Currently, Robert W. King, a prominent Baptist attorney from Jackson serves as president of the board. The other officers are: James T. Hollingsworth of Hollandale, vice-president of the board and chairman of its Executive Committee; Lyle V. Corey of Meridian, our Board's secretary.

At this writing, The Village Board has one vacancy, created by the resignation of William Pruitt, pastor of First Baptist Church, Picayune, when elected, but now residing in another state.

The other trustees serving actively

are: W. G. Reedy, pastor, First Baptist Church, Water Valley; William F. Evans, pastor, State Blvd. Baptist Church, Meridian; Ralph H. Hester of Jackson; Fred L. Gaddis of Forest; W. Kelly Pyron of Natchez; T. Cooper Walton of Jackson; Charles T. Hull of Winona; E. R. "Jake" Bond of Long Beach; Jim Futral, pastor, First Baptist Church, Amory; Dwight L. Hastings, Laurel; and Charles L. Miller of Jackson.

No worthy mention of the service rendered by Village trustees is adequate without including the names of Doyle Cummings, pastor, First Baptist Church, Itta Bena; W. C. Cathey of Jackson and A. L. Rainey, Jr., of Gulfport, all in temporary retirement from The Village Board, but each of whom has served and helped us as official trustees for many years and each of whom remains active in our behalf.

Presenting our Staff:



Linda Burns
Caseworker

Geneva Gwin
Houseparent,
India Nunnery
Campus

The Baptist Children's Village

P.O. Box 11306 • Jackson, Mississippi 39213

During the 1980-81 school year The Village will have students attending the following schools throughout Mississippi:

Clinton Park Elementary;
Northside Elementary, Clinton;
Eastside Elementary, Clinton;
Lovett Elementary School, Clinton;
Clinton Junior High School;
Sumner Hill Junior High School, Clinton;
Clinton High School;
East Tate Elementary;
Independence Junior High School;
Independence High School;
W. P. Daniel High School, New Albany;
New Albany Elementary School;
Brookhaven Elementary School;
Maxine Martin Elementary;
Fannie Mullins Elementary;
Lipsey Elementary School;
Alexander Junior High, Brookhaven;
Brookhaven High School;
Eva Harris Vocational School, Brookhaven;
Northwest Junior College, Senatobia;
Mississippi State University, Starkville;
Parkway Baptist Church Kindergarten, Jackson;
Northeast Junior College, Booneville;
Hinds Junior College, Raymond;
Clarke College, Newton;
Mississippi College, Clinton.

Numbers have already responded to our annual "Back to School" appeal with a gift, and we are so grateful!

Without the designated cash gifts of individual friends just now, The Village would be unable to make the financial adjustment, for, in this day of staggering operating costs, it is a long time from the Mother's Day offering of our churches in May to gifts received from individuals in December, designated for the "Holiday Fund."

Formal education is exceedingly important, and even critical to adequate Christian Child Care, as we struggle to bring meaning, direction and purpose to disturbed hearts and minds and disrupted lives of Mississippi boys and girls who can not live in their natural homes for a time.

The Village staff thanks you who have helped so much, as we respectfully invite other individuals to remember our children's school needs this year.

At this writing, only about one-half of our minimum requirements for these purposes has been received.

As children from each of the four Village residential facilities commence the 1981-82 school year, another significant difference between the adjustment of the Village family and that of the more normal family of the disciplines of renewed, regular school attendance, is to be noted in the apprehension which accompanies so many of our children and young people as they return to the classroom.

In many instances, children and youths newly admitted to Village care, have recently experienced great upheavals in personal and family lives, and are consequently at less than their best, mentally and emotionally.

Moreover, a clear majority of new admissions to Village care have unsatisfactory, unstable, irregular school backgrounds.

Academic failure, frequent school transfers, poor attendance records, combine to render the school experience a frightening prospect for so many Village boys and girls who need your understanding and prayers, along with the supportive love and encouragement of our staff in a special degree.

This Fall, The Village dispatches 12 of its young people to college—nine in academic training and three in technical/vocational training. BACK TO SCHOOL is indeed different at The Baptist Children's Village!

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Syktyvkar, USSR Baptist Church has worshipped in this building for the past three years. The church was begun with four Christian believers in the year 1943. More than 60 converts have been baptized since 1979. EBPS Photo by John Wilkes.

Celebration on the Sisola

By John M. Wilkes
SYKTYVKAR, USSR — This capital of the Komi Autonomous Republic is observing its 200th Anniversary, while the Republic itself celebrates its 60th year during 1981.

In Syktyvkar there is a Baptist church which also had cause for celebration, and scheduled a joyful service of Baptism and the Lord's Supper on a recent summer Sunday.

The church council took two and one-half hours to "examine" the candidates on Saturday evening, to assure they should be duly recommended to the church. One by one they were called back to learn of the council's approval, amid much exuberant kissing and handshaking.

The next morning, most of the 160 members met in a forest glade overlooking a sandy bank of the Sisola River. A deacon asked some early bathers if they would delay their swim, while the twelve candidates went to temporary tents to change.

After two sermons on Christian Baptism, the congregation and candidates lined up at water's edge. Sergei Nikolaev, Baptist presbyter for Northwest Russia and titular pastor of the church, and this writer waded into the water first. Its temperature was below 20 degrees Celsius (68°F), while the outside heat was already mounting to the day's 28-degree high. (In winter the thermometer drops to -40 here!).

The candidates, ranging from a teenager to a 72-year old, made their way to one of the other in turn. Extending one hand to steady them and the other upward, we repeated the Russian words: "Po vere, kreschu tibia—vo imia Otca, i Sina, i Svjatogo Duhka." (According to thy faith I baptize thee in the name of the Father,

the Son, and the Holy Ghost.) Each candidate shouted "Amen!" and was placed under the water and lifted up again "to walk in newness of life," while the congregation sang on the shore.

After all had changed from wet garments, the congregation surrounded them under the shade of the tall trees. Pastor Roman N. Prihodiko, who had traveled 500 Kilometers from Ukhta, and Pastor Nikolai V. Deviatkin, who had flown 1,000 Kilometers from Archangel for this celebration service joined in laying on of hands and prayer for each new member. Nikolaev preached once more from Romans 6.

At 1 p.m. the congregation gathered again at their attractive, three-year old "prayer-house" for the Lord's Supper. This ceremony included sermons by the guests, poems, and the presentation to newly-baptized members of Bibles and bound books of letters from other members. It ended at 4:30 P.M.

This was not enough for the congregation. They asked the pastor to plan another service Monday evening, when each guest preached again. As it closed and we made our way out through the crowd, those remaining started to sing, "Ring the bells of heaven; there is joy today..."

Someone else had come forward to state their faith in Jesus Christ. For the Baptists of Syktyvkar, the Sisola's flowing waters will part again, and that too, will be a day of celebration.

The world has too many cranks and not enough self-starters.

It isn't what a man does—it's what's left of him after he's done it.

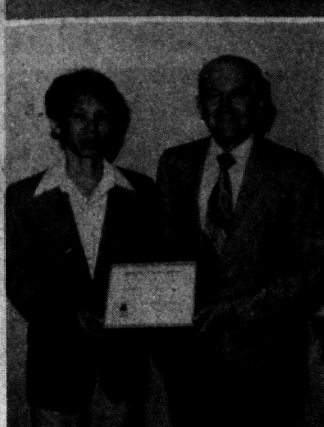
Breakfast on beach

Atakpame, Togo — They started the day with a breakfast of bread and fish cooked on the beach as Jesus and his disciples had done. But that wasn't the only treat in store for Southern Baptist MKs (missionary kids) in Togo on their second annual retreat. They were thrilled later in the day when the American ambassador drove up in her embassy car to address them, says Marsha Key, Southern Baptist missionary press representative for Togo, but the best was yet to come. A rainbow appeared in a rainless sky. Mrs. Key told the children that one of her Sunday School teachers had told her that a rainbow is God shouting "I love you! I love you! I love you!"



Both younger and older believers stand shoulder to shoulder to sing after their baptism, then take their first Lord's Supper with Baptist congregation in Syktyvkar, USSR. EBPS Photo by John Wilkes.

Na...ces.



KEITH ALLEN, right, presented TIMOTHY YEUNG, left, a Laubach diploma during a service at Chinese Mission of First Church, Greenville. Allen has been teaching Yeung a five-book course in reading, writing, and speaking the English language. Seven Chinese are now taking this course through the mission, according to Ted Shepherd, minister of missions.

Delbert Taylor, Southern Baptist general evangelist to Tunja, Colombia, recently won the "over 40" bicycling championship for the department (state) of Boyaca. The Taylors and literature missionaries Tom and Peggy Sutton are opening Baptist work in Tunja, where Taylor's bicycling interests have already helped him make contacts with people.

Ellen Anderson, director of music at Sandy Hook Church, Sandy Hook, was married to Lloyd B. Wolfe, Jr. of Columbia on Aug. 15. The couple will live in Jackson, where he is a dental student. She will continue to be director of music at Sandy Hook on weekends.

Homecomings

First Church, Helena, Pascagoula, will have homecoming Sept. 13. Bill Barton, administrator, Home of Grace, Vancleave, will bring the morning message. The Harmony Quartet, Biloxi, will bring special music in the afternoon after dinner on the grounds. The pastor is Gerald Hegwood.

Pilgrims Rest Church near Batesville in Panola County will have homecoming Sept. 6. James West, a former pastor there, will preach at the 11 a.m. service. Dinner on the grounds will be served at 12. Special singing will begin at 1:30. Claude Howe, also a former pastor there, will preach at 2 p.m. There will be no night service.

Homecoming at Friendship East

Church near Charleston in Talahatchie Association will be on Sept. 13. Services will begin at 11 a.m. with lunch served at noon in the Fellowship Hall which is under construction. In the afternoon, the Gospelaire of Greenwood will present a concert. J. G. Thomas is pastor.

Eighth Avenue Church, Meridian, will observe homecoming and old-fashioned day on Sunday, Sept. 13. The schedule is: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship service, 11 a.m.; dinner on the grounds, 12:30 p.m.; "Young at Heart" Washbucklet Band performance, 1:15 p.m.; musical concert by the McPhersons, 2 p.m.; cottage prayer meetings, 6 p.m. Paul E. Early is the pastor.

Devotional

All the way

By Ruby P. Buckley, Prentiss

As I started down the stairs from Sunday School to the worship service, I hesitated. There it was again. That song going over in my mind. I wanted to hear it sung in worship. I wanted to sing it in worship. It first came to mind as I

prepared to teach the Bible Study that Sunday. Quickly turning toward the choir room, I made the request to a member going in, as rehearsal had already begun. "Would you please ask them to sing this song, especially the third verse?"

During the worship service the words of Psalms 84:11a kept going over in my mind. With deliberate concentration, I listened to the excellent sermon, but my mind kept going back to that verse. God had a message in it that He wanted me to hear. "For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory."

God is:
A Sun—to provide light and warmth.
A Shield—to provide protection.
The Lord will give:
Grace—"Not what I deserve, but what I need."
Glory—the favor that allows me to come into his presence and the favor he shows us by giving more responsibility.
He was saying to me, "I will light your way, be your protection and give you all you need to be obedient to Me along the way."
That verse really found a dwelling place in my heart that day.
That's why I wanted to sing the song in worship.
We stood for the invitation. As we bowed our heads the choir sang so beautifully these words:

He will give you grace and glory.
He will give you grace and glory.
He will give you grace and glory.
And go with you, with you all the way.
Not part of the way. Not 99.99 percent of the way, but all the way! All the way with all we need! Did you hear that? He is with us! All the way!
Like sun rays coming through a magnifying glass, so was God's revelation and love concentrated on me at that moment. How do you write an experience?

You can't.
You must experience it.
I saw the reality of this promise as I had never seen it before.
Later as I reflected on that time of worship I thought of the many people involved. First there was the Word itself, then the one who wrote the hymn, my following the Holy Nudge to request it, the music director being willing to sing it and the choir singing under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, to mention just a few.
How sensitive we need to be to God's leading in our lives—in the lives of others, lest we become blessing robbers.
I Thessalonians 5:19 says, "Do not suppress or subdue the Holy Spirit." I have a greater appreciation for that verse now.

Life and Work Lesson

Guidelines for daily work

By Joel E. Haire, pastor
First Church, Crystal Springs

Proverbs 6:6-8; 11:1-4, 24-28; 15:16-17

The idea of work means different things to different people. Every person who works does not have the same motive in mind. Work can be an excuse for neglect of family, church, and other responsibilities. It can become an obsession so that nothing else is as important in life. Work might be considered a duty as something that has to be done and the right thing to do. Some may use work as an escape from self and others. Proof of worth is another motive for work and carries with it the idea that since I work and do my job well, I must be worth something. To some, work is a kind of slavery in which life is controlled by work. Such an individual allows his job to order his life. He does not control his own work.

It is refreshing to find people who consider work as opportunity. These appreciate their work and know it offers fulfillment. They are grateful for strength and health to work. Little time is given to complaining and much time to rejoicing over work.

Work can bring opportunities to a Christian's life that he would not otherwise enjoy. He can set a good Christian example in his work. It may offer witnessing opportunities. A conscientious Christian worker makes the world about him a better place to live.

Proverbs 6, 11, and 15 give several ways that people relate to work. Both work and the rewards of work are dealt with.

I. The lazy (6:6-8)

Here was an example in an unexpected place. Usually we look to things that are bigger, better, and higher than we are for our examples. Kings and political leaders often set examples. Religious leaders may be placed before us for examples. Who would think of sitting down and watching an ant at work as a worthy example? This tells us two things. First, a sluggard is in desperate need of an example. His condition is such that any motivation would be helpful. Proverbs 6:6 neither praises nor appreciates the sluggard. Second, some of the best examples in life are missed when we ignore the simple things. Our corporations, our machinery, our pace and manner of life can cause us to miss some of God's great lessons. We need to look in all good areas of life for examples that can help us become better people.

The ant is a worker and doesn't have

to be under constant observation. She can do her work without an overseer or ruler. Her pace is not governed by who is watching. Rather, she works with a purpose. That purpose is to provide food for the future.

The lesson is clear. We are so much more than these tiny creatures we call ants. Our motivation and reasons for work are much greater. The work God provides for us and enables us to do requires our very best.

II. The liable (11:1-4)

Integrity in business is as much related to a person's work as it has ever been. New ways to be dishonest seem to be discovered every day. All kinds of schemes promise roads to quick riches. Work less and get more is the idea portrayed. Take a short cut to success by being dishonest is suggested.

However, Proverbs 11 reminds us that dishonesty is a liability. It displeases God. It brings one to his own destruction. Dishonesty may appear to bring prosperity for a short while. The companion of dishonest prosperity is pride. But just when pride and prosperity seem victorious, shame and destruction will come.

Dishonest conduct reveals a dishonest heart. That dishonesty will one day face the final judgment day. A person may work ever so hard for riches. He may disregard everything and everyone in acquiring wealth. Yet his final bank statement will record riches on the loss side of the ledger.

III. The liberal (11:24-28)

Liberality with one's possessions is commended as the right way. The attitude that this is mine, I worked for it and I can keep it, may increase the bank account. However, it may also bring poverty of spirit.

The selfish nature of man says get it, hold onto it, and it will be yours. This paints the picture of gaining more by getting than by giving. The Christian view of material things says be more concerned with giving than receiving. Giving out of a heart of love lends itself to abundance. It tends to increase the supply as well as the opportunity to give. The atmosphere around a giving heart is one of warmth and blessing. Liberality is God's way. He shows this by teaching and example.

It is cruel indeed to have in abundance the material things another needs and refuse to share them. The scripture here does not teach against

selling one's goods at a fair and reasonable price. It does teach against hoarding.

God has given Southern Baptists so much. We have now opportunities to share through Bold Missions. Our future is not in hoarding for ourselves. It is in sharing.

IV. The little (15:16-17)

Our attitude can affect everything about our work. This is especially true as it relates to the material things our work affords us. Contentment with a little and gratitude to God for it can make that little go a long way. A right attitude toward God can help us get more out of life than riches could ever bring. Little with the Lord is far better than the trouble and anxiety that can come in the pursuit and preservation of wealth.

At least four things are suggested in Proverbs 15:16-17 concerning our attitude toward what we possess and toward God.

1. Little plus the fear of the Lord equals a lot.
2. Much plus trouble equals a little.
3. The plain plus love equals the better.
4. The elaborate plus hatred equals the worse.

A Christian who wants his life to count most will let God guide every area of that life. He will thank God for the ability and strength to do his work. Though his work is important to life he will not make it all of life. He will seek to glorify God in work and in everything.

Revival Dates

Eighth Avenue, Meridian: Sept. 14-19; Paul W. Ball, Frisco City, Ala., evangelist; daily Bible study and luncheon fellowship at 11 a.m. and nightly services at 7; Sunday, Sept. 20, service at 11 a.m. and celebration service at 7 p.m., plus Sunday School at 9:45 and an ice cream supper at 5:30 p.m.; Paul E. Earley, pastor.

Friendship (Oktibbeha): Sept. 13-18; at 7 p.m. Sister Wilson, pastor of Community Church, Laurel, evangelist; Bum Lee of Starkville, leading the singing; Bill Boggess, pastor.

Uniform Lesson

All in a week's work

By Jim Keith, pastor,
First, Gulfport

Genesis 1:1-2:3

Archbishop James Ussher concluded that it all started at 9 a.m., October 4, 4004 B.C. Having traced successively the named and numbered genealogical generations of the Bible, this seventeenth century "Professor of Theological Controversies" sought to solve and settle the dispute concerning when all things began. His decision only added to the dilemma.

The first pages of scripture provide an historical account of prehistorical creation. Since many if not most debates about this prosaic record of "beginnings" have come from those who seek to make it something it was never intended to be, it would be appropriate at the outset to suggest the purpose behind the passage. This text was not given with the intention of answering all the questions man could ask (the scientific questions of "how," "when") but to answer the ultimate questions man should ask (the spiritual questions of "who," "what," "why"). It was revealed and recorded to: (1) introduce the Creator, the creation, and the creature, and (2) determine the divinely intended relationship of each to the others.

How can one best grasp the message of Genesis 1:1-2:3? Perhaps scripture provides its own clue. In an obscure benediction (Romans 11:36) in the doxology (Romans 11:33-36) to his Roman diatribe (Romans 9-11) Paul gives the pattern of God's creative act when he says, "For from him and through him and to him are all things." One sentence from Paul applied to one chapter in Genesis provides the outline to one week in the work of God.

I. From him are all things

God is the subject of the first sentence of scripture and within the Bible's initial 34 verses he is mentioned 35 times. The primary concern is not with "all things" that come from him but with "the One" from whom all things come. Of course verse one speaks of when—"in the beginning" (which gives no date since the tools for chronological determination do not exist at this point—verse 14). What "heavens and earth" (the Hebrews had no word for "universe," therefore this expression conveyed the idea of "all things") and, to an extent, how "created" (to be considered in the next section), but the purpose of the passage is found in the person, who—

"God."

The word used for God, "Elohim," is the plural form of fullness conveying the superlative, the maximum of meaning. Hebrew integrity would not allow a singular symbol to limit the magnitude of divine identity, and only the plural term for magnificence would suffice. However, this causes interpretive problems, for it literally makes "God" into "Gods" and results in the translation difficulties addressed in Genesis 1:26 ("let us make man") and Psalm 8:5 ("little lower than Elohim"). Many have pressed this as a reference to the Trinity, which Jewish theology would have never allowed (Deuteronomy 6:4, John 10:30-31), but the scripture does acknowledge the work of the triune presence in the act of creation. As God planned it (Genesis 1:1), and the Spirit protected it (Genesis 1:2), the Son provided it (John 1:1-3; I Corinthians 8:6; Colossians 1:15-17; Hebrews 1:2, Revelation 4:11). The function of each in physical creation directly parallels the responsibility of each in spiritual re-creation: (1) God plans it (Ephesians 1:3-6), (2) the Son provides it (Ephesians 1:7-13), and the Spirit protects it (Ephesians 1:13-14).

From the conclusion that God is the singular source for all substance it would be well to remember that (1) each portion of creation bears some imprint of the creator (the sacredness of substance), but (2) no portion of creation should ever be mistaken for or take the place of the Creator (pantheism).

II. Through him are all things

The word "create" conveys at least two meanings: (1) bringing into existence from nothing, and (2) bringing into perfection from something. In Genesis 1 it is used both ways.

God's first act was to create something from nothing. The substance of this world found its source in God's pre-existent self but not within some pre-existent material. This concept, "ex nihilo," is not explicitly stated within the text but it is certainly implied (Genesis 1:1, Psalm 90:1, 2; Romans 4:17; Hebrews 11:3). The scholastic theologian, Thomas Aquinas, detected three methods used by God for bringing all into being: (1) Creation—something from nothing (vs. 3), (2) separation—dividing one thing from another (e.g.—vs. 7), and (3) embellishment—making one thing out of another (e.g.—vs. 24). The

latter two, division and adornment, allowed God to move his creation from chaos (1:2) to completion (2:1), from a mess (1:2) to man (1:26).

A review of Genesis 1:3-26 reveals the repeatable pattern of "form to fullness." The form of day one (light and dark, vs. 3-5) found its fullness in day four (the lights of day and night, vs. 14-19); the form of day two (sea and sky, vs. 6-8) found its fullness in day five (creatures of the water and air, vs. 20-23); and the form of day three (fertile earth, vs. 9-13) found its fullness in day six (creatures of the land, vs. 24-26).

Several related considerations should be mentioned. First, the means of creation was the spoken word (vs. 3, 6, 9, 14, 20, 24, 26; Psalm 33:6, 9). This word took form as well as flesh (John 1:14). Second, the length of creation was six days (1:31). The evidence is inconclusive as to whether these are six 24-hour periods (since the objects for determining such were not available until day four, vs. 14), or six periods of undetermined length (Psalm 90:4; II Peter 3:8). Third, the value of creation was from "good" (vs. 4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25) to "very good" (vs. 31). There was nothing in the original creation that would predispose the first individuals toward evil.

III. To him are all things

Since all things are from God all things belong to God. This truth found its finest expression on the concluding day of creation. Having formed the creatures of the earth first (1:24, 25) God then fashioned the one creature that would bear his "image and likeness" on earth, man (1:26, 27).

The fact that God provided a caretaker on earth who carries and conveys the "image" and integrity (Ephesians 4:24, Colossians 3:10) of heaven suggests a continuing purpose for creation that relates to the Creator (Ephesians 2:10). Since the world came from and through God it is man's responsibility to see that it moves to God as well.

Conclusion: The result of spiritual work is spiritual rest. God's performance (2:1-3) became his image-bearers' pattern (Exodus 20:8-11). Although God's work was now finished (2:2) it was not over (John 5:16, 17). It will not be completed until his work is "finished" (John 19:30) in and through each of his creatures—and then the rest (Revelation 14:13).